

**Minutes of the Jasper Community Arts Commission
City of Jasper, Indiana
December 1, 2009**

The regular meeting of the Jasper Community Arts Commission was held at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 1, 2009, at the Jasper Arts Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and then roll call was held with the following **Commission Members Present:** Mike Jones, Don Weisheit, Doug Abbett, Robin Norris, Norma Kreilein, Nanette Parsons and Ann Hilgefert. **Commission Members Absent:** Greg Stoner, Kendall Martin, Mickey Seger and Pat Thyen. **Staff Members Present:** Kit Miracle, Doreen Lechner, Amy Laakman, Donna Schepers, Karen Grewe, Dalesse Bowles. **Regional Services Coordinator:** Lisa McSpadden. **City Attorney:** Sandy Hemmerlein. **Guests in attendance:** Mayor William Schmitt, and Herald Reporter Kasey Hawrysz,

Kit Miracle introduced Lisa McSpadden as the new Regional Services Coordinator.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ann Hilgefert moved to approve the minutes of the August meeting. **Doug Abbett** seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

Mike Jones announced Doug Abbett will be leaving the Jasper Community Arts Commission after 18 years of service. Mayor William Schmitt, on behalf of the Jasper Art Commission, the City Council and the City of Jasper, thanked Doug Abbett and presented him with an art sculpture, created by Tom Schum, for 18 years of service with the Jasper Community Arts Commission.

City Financial Statement

Doug Abbett moved to approve the claims and financial statement as presented. **Robin Norris** seconded. Motion passed 7-0. The new budget figures reflect all the transfers of money to the equipment line for the sound system.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Director's Report/Performing Arts

Kit reported.

- Donation letters have been sent and donations are coming in.
- The state has not released any money yet. We are not expecting money to come down from the state until January 2010.
- Spending is down from last year at this time. Income is down as well.
- Kit asked to encumber \$32,242.00 from the budget in the equipment line for the sound system for January 2010. **Mike Jones** moved to allow \$32,242.00 in the equipment line to be encumbered to pay for the sound system in 2010. **Doug Abbett** seconded. Motion passed 7-0.
- *To Kill A Mockingbird* was a great hit with the public. We received many compliments for this performance. We received an email asking for more of these kinds of performances. 25 student rush tickets were sold for the performance. All the diversity projects went well.
- Kit reported a special request has been received from IU to bring a string sextet on Feb. 13. The consensus of the board is to pass so as not to take away from the Kuttner String Quartet, IU Jacobs School of Music, who is already set to perform on January 23, 2010.

Building and Structure Report

Doreen reported.

- The sound company has been in to look at the building. The front speakers are not in stock by the manufacturer at this time. The company has given a date of early January for arrival of the speakers. The project will be completed in 3 parts. The first part will be completed in-house, and will consist of running wiring from the balcony to the cat-walk. The company will come in after

Ball in the House performs and run its wiring from the cat-walk to where the speakers get mounted. In January the speakers will be mounted.

- The refrigerator went out over the Thanksgiving weekend. It has been replaced.

Education Report

Donna reported.

- Laura Simms was the highlight of November. She performed on the backstage for Holy Family 6th, 7th and 8th graders. This was a very nice performance, well received. In the afternoon, she went to the Jasper Middle School and performed.
- In December, the highlight will be *Ball in the House*. They will be involved with every grade level in the Jasper schools. They will have a very busy schedule while in Jasper. There will be 3 performances at the Jasper Arts Center and Donna needs volunteers to help seat the children. She has close to 600 children coming to each performance. Tuesday's performances will be at the schools, so teachers will be available to help. *Ball in the House* will be providing workshops in the middle school and high school on Friday.
- She thanked Doug Abbett for all the support and work he has provided during his tenure here.

Visual Arts Report

Amy reported.

- The shoe project was an absolute success. She thanked Kasey, with *The Herald* for her coverage of it and the *Gleanings* at VU will be doing a story also.
- The workshops went great this fall. There is a high demand for preschool workshops.
- The current exhibit is the visual arts committee and the workshop instructors have also been included.
- The artist's studio sale is Saturday, Dec. 5th and Sunday, Dec. 6th at the Train Depot.

Project Coordinator Report

Dalesse reported.

- Dalesse has been decorating the Jasper Arts Center for December. She is working on the Volunteer Thank you reception on December 11.

Region 11 Report

Kit reported.

- The IAC sent out an email stating another 4.5% will be cut from the budget. The amounts of the regional block grants have been recalculated. The regional block grants are changing from \$28,140.00 to \$25,874.00. The arts development services grant is changing from \$19,377.00 to \$19,225.00, which pays for our regional contract employee and reimburses the city in part for all that we do and pays for regional workshops that we are obligated to provide. The community arts programming grant that we receive at JCAC will be reduced to \$32,055.00 from \$33,565.00. Mike Jones moved to approve the new dollar amounts for the final grant awards. Ann Hilgefert seconded. Motion passed 7-0.
- Lisa reported.
- She has contacted all the grant contacts by email and will contact them by phone after the commissioners approve on the 11th.

Old Business

- Don Weisheit reported for the nominating committee that the current officers are all agreeable to taking another term. Elections will be held in January after the new commission members have been appointed and have the opportunity for nominations from the floor.
- Mike reported that Ann Hilgefert will also be leaving the board after 6 years of service.

New Business

- Mike Jones passed around a sign-up sheet for the City Council meetings for 2010. The December City Council meeting has been moved to noon on December 23 instead of in the evening.
- Mike attended the November city council meeting and informed them we are being as fiscally responsible as possible.
- He also informed the City Council, 4 JCAC member terms were coming up in December. Two members will be leaving the board, Doug Abbett and Ann Hilgefort. Two members will be continuing on the board, Mike Jones and Mickey Seger.
- He also informed the City Council they are still passionate about the building expansion project and will talk to them more about it in 2010 after budgets are set.
- Mike also reported the numbers regarding the patrons attending the performances at JCAC and the revenue that may be coming to the city as they eat, shop or get gas, etc.
- Mike reminded commission members, at least twice a year, they should be reporting back to the groups who have appointed them to the JCAC.
- Mike reported Kit forwarded a state arts survey, please complete and send it back. It takes just a few minutes to complete.
- The agenda says the annual Volunteer Thank You reception is at 7:30 p.m., but that is an error. The correct time is 7 p.m.
- Kit reported that we have a list of about 400 volunteers that assist with our programming throughout the year. The annual volunteer reception is our way to say thank you.
- Mike reported on a performer that was at the Hospital Gala and he suggested the board and staff look at the website: www.joyunspeakable.net and this artist as a possible performer for the Chalk Walk. The cost would be about \$1500.00. It would be an opportunity for someone to sponsor or underwrite the cost.

Adjournment

Nanette Parsons moved to adjourn at 5:26p.m. **Don Weisheit** seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

Mike Jones

Attested